

Applicant: Van Soest, R.
Application No.: Unassigned
Filing Date: Herewith
Docket No.: 903-186 PCT/US
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A. Amendments to the Specification:

Please add the following immediately after the title of the invention:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS:

This application is the National Stage of International Application No. PCT/NL2004/000655, filed September 21, 2004, which claims the benefit of Netherlands Application No. NL 1024619, filed October 24, 2003, the contents of which are incorporated by reference herein.

Please add the following new paragraph immediately prior to page 1, line 3, and after the Cross Reference to Related Applications, as follows:

FIELD OF THE INVENTION:

Please add the following new paragraph immediately prior to page 1, line 9, as follows:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION:

Please add the following new paragraph immediately prior to page 1, line 34, as follows:

Another device of the type referred to in the preamble is known from FR 2 699 696. This known device can be used, for example, to inspect the ripeness of fruit. The device comprises a box which is positioned above a reference plane. The reference plane may be moveable, so that objects are transported through the box. A ring of a transparent material is arranged approximately half way up the height of the box. A light source which radiates light into the ring through an opening in the box is arranged outside the box. The ring transmits the light and is responsible for uniform illumination of the object, which is located beneath it approximately in the centre. An optical observation means is arranged in the top of the box for observing objects. The optical observation means as it were look at the object through the central opening in the

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ring. This known device is designed to illuminate and observe one object each time and is therefore not suitable for the inspection of large numbers of objects.

Please add the following new paragraph immediately prior to page 1, line 37, as follows:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION:

Please delete the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 15.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 1, as follows:

The invention will be explained in more detail with reference to the drawings, in which:

Please add the following new paragraph immediately prior to page 3, line 4, as follows:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 4, as follows:

Fig. 1 shows a perspective view, obliquely from above, of a preferred embodiment of a device according to the invention. [,]

Fig. 2 shows a perspective view, obliquely from below, of a portion of the device shown in Fig. 1. [,]

Fig. 3 shows a cross section through a portion of the top side of the device shown in Fig. 1. [,]

Fig. 4 shows a cross section through the box of the device shown in Fig. 1, on line IV-IV in Fig. 5. [,]

Fig. 5 shows a side view of the box of the device shown in Fig. 1. [,]

Fig. 6 shows a front side view of the box of the device shown in Fig. 1. [,]

Fig. 7 shows a front view of a conveyor for eggs. [,] and

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Fig. 8 shows a plan view of the conveyor shown in Fig. 7.

Please add the following new paragraph immediately prior to page 3, line 19, as follows:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS:

**Please amend the section description for the claims on the top of page 8, as follows:
WHAT IS CLAIMED IS: CLAIMS**